

The Great War—1407th Day

ject of obtaining a clear way toward Paris with the Oise protecting his right, in conjunction with later moves from the Soissons-Chateau Thierry line.

Principal Line
At Montdidier
Is Not Touched
LONDON, June 9.—“Up to about mid-morning,” says the Reuter correspondent at French Headquarters, “the enemy advance on the Montdidier-Noyon line was confined to our advanced zone. Our principal line of resistance was not touched.”

German Drive Drops To 21-Mile Front; Report Cheers Paris
PARIS, June 9.—The official announcement today that another phase of the German offensive was opened this morning between Montdidier and Noyon was interpreted by the public as having a hopeful aspect.

The point was made that the latest attack is on a front of only about twenty miles, compared with a front of fifty miles for the first offensive this year, on March 21, and of twenty miles for the attack along the Aisne on May 27. This is regarded as an indication of diminution of the power of the attacking masses.

Pershing Tells of Attacks Repulsed Near Chateau Thierry
WASHINGTON, June 9.—General Pershing's communiqué for Saturday, June 8, in transmission until tonight, tells of unsuccessful hostile attacks northwest of Chateau Thierry Friday night, in which the enemy lost heavily without reaching the American lines at any point. The communiqué follows:

“Section A.—Northwest of Chateau Thierry hostile attacks were made on a front of two miles during the night after artillery preparation. These were repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy and without reaching our lines at any point.”

“Section B.—Nothing to report in this section.”

German Attack on French Lines Fails To Reach British
(By The Associated Press)

WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN FRANCE, June 9 (3 p. m.).—Thus far the attack launched by the Germans this morning against the French between Noyon and Montdidier has developed no conjunctive operation on the British front, though heavy bombardments last night and early today against the British right gave promise for a time of a more extensive enemy offensive.

It may be that for the moment the German High Command is content with a southerly drive between Montdidier and Noyon, with the idea of capturing Compiègne, with its railways, and straightening out the salient which the enemy has driven into the French front between Soissons and Rheims.

It would be unsafe to predict at this juncture that attacks would not boil up further north. Certainly von Hindenburg had a considerable period had his effectiveness ready for a drive against part of the British front. Whether the enemy will withdraw troops from the British front and make the present operations opposite Paris his big gamble only time will tell. It can only be said to-day the German battle line is still prepared for action along the British zone.

Added interest for the American soldiers training here is given in the fact that Cantigny, which the American troops captured, is just north of the right wing of the German storm troops. Latest reports received here are cheerful. It appears from the meagre news that the French are holding magnificently.

Intense bombardment developed at various points along the British front during the night. The forward area on the British right was heavily shelled from midnight to 2 o'clock. From 1 o'clock to 4 the sector east of Lavielle, to the southwest of Albert, was under a severe gas shell bombardment, and between 3 and 4 the front zone west of Albert was pounded hard. The Arras section also was put under a severe barrage last night and again early this morning.

The Official Statements

PARIS, June 9.—The statements issued by the War Office to-day said: NIGHT.—A new offensive begun this morning by the German army developed with sustained violence on a front of thirty-five kilometers (approximately 21.8 miles) between Montdidier and the Oise. The enemy, in great force, multiplied his efforts to drive through our lines, but our troops everywhere sustained the shock along the entire battle line. Stubborn engagements stopped or seriously retarded the enemy thrust.

To the left the Germans did not succeed in crossing our covering zone and were strongly held by our troops on the line of Rubescourt, Le Fretoy and Mortemer, which they reached.

On the centre the progress of the enemy was more appreciable. After successive attacks, which were murderous for their troops, the Germans succeeded in taking foot in the villages of Ressons-sur-Matz and Mareuil, where our units of the first lines continued to offer defiance, foot by foot.

On the right the enemy met with resistance not less energetic, and despite his repeated efforts we held him on the front comprising Belval, Camettecourt and Ville.

DAY.—The Germans began at midnight a violent preparatory artillery fire from the region north of Montdidier as far as to the east of the Oise. The French batteries immediately intensified their fire in counter preparation.

At 4:30 o'clock the German infantry made an attack on the French positions between Montdidier and Noyon. Our troops are resisting with magnificent valor in the covering zone. The battle is continuing.

Between the Oise and the Aisne the French this morning carried out a local operation east of Hautebraye and gained ground, taking sixty prisoners. South of the Oureq the French improved their positions east of Chezy. The Germans, who succeeded at 10 o'clock last night in penetrating the French lines near Vinly, were thrown out completely by a French counter attack. At the same hour the French captured Eloup Wood, and this morning the wood directly south of Bussières. In these operations we took 200 prisoners, including five officers.

West of Rheims, after a spirited bombardment, the Germans attacked in the region of Virgny. They suffered serious losses, without obtaining any results.

Berlin Reports Gains West of the Oise
BERLIN, via London, June 9.—The official reports from headquarters to-day were:

NIGHT.—West of the Oise we have captured the height of Gury and adjoining enemy lines.

DAY.—The artillery duel increased many times in the evening and early this morning. It increased in intensity in the Kemmel region, south of the Somme and on the Avere.

Local attacks by the French south of Ypres and by the British north of Beaumont-Hamel were sanguinously repulsed.

On the Oise fighting activity revived. Local French attacks on the southern bank of the Aisne and on the south side of the Marne failed. Thrusts by our troops east of Cutry resulted in the capture of forty-five prisoners.

Americans who attempted again to attack northwest of Chateau Thierry were driven back beyond their positions of departure, with heavy losses, and prisoners were captured.

In a successful undertaking on the east bank of the Moselle we captured prisoners.

Allies in Successful Raid Before Ypres, Says Haig
LONDON, June 9.—Field Marshal Haig to-day issued the following statements:

NIGHT.—There is nothing of interest to report on the British front.

DAY.—English troops carried out a successful raid last night south of Beaumont-Hamel and captured thirty prisoners.

A few prisoners were captured also by French troops in a successful raid north of Bailleul. Hostile raids were repulsed yesterday evening and during the night southeast and east of Arras and in the neighborhood of Givency-les-la-Bassée.

The hostile artillery activity has been above normal on the southern portion of our front from Villers-Bretonneux to Albert, and also between Givency and Rebecq.

Artillery Fire Increasing, Rome Reports
ROME, June 9.—The statement issued by the War Office to-day says:

The action of both artilleries was quite intense from the Astico to the Piave and moderate on the rest of the front.

To the south of the Asa a British party, in a successful surprise attack, inflicted considerable losses on the enemy and brought back eleven prisoners.

To the east of Brenta one of our detachments carried out a raid on Monte Pertica, doing great damage to defences and garrison. A few prisoners and one machine gun were captured. In the Val Asa and Astico Valley attacks attempted by the enemy infantry were checked by our fire.

Thinks U.S. Could Be the Greatest Military Nation

London “Observer” Says Americans Proved Their Fibre in Fight on Ourcq
Outlines the Situation

Calls Campaign “Supreme Play” of All German and Allied Forces

LONDON, June 9.—The military situation on the Western front is summed up as follows by “The Sunday Observer”:

“Nothing gave more comfort to the French than the splendid fighting, side by side with them on the Ourcq, of the American people, reckoning their numbers and fibre together, are capable of becoming the greatest military nation in the world.”

Tuesday, the Germans had reached their limit and even been driven back here and there. They had failed to reach Villers-Cotterets or the river course of the Ourcq, and they have since been securely held. Villages have changed hands again and again, but final advantages in the last few days have been nearly always with the Allies, and in these reconquering little actions British troops, at Bligny, near Rheims, have signified themselves with the rest.

The Germans can never have had the least hope of gaining a tactical result of one battle. Their chief purpose looking to the ultimately decisive object of the whole campaign was of another kind. But after the first couple of days of a success, which must have been beyond their expectations, they may well have hoped, and must still hope, to come near enough to the capital to bring Paris under the fire of their heavy guns.

“As they have not succeeded in this they are likely to turn their next attack elsewhere, without any means giving up the thought of renewing the threat to Paris at a later phase of these alternating movements. (This was written before news of the new German offensive movement was received in London.)

“We must not think too exclusively of Paris or of Amiens or of the Channel ports and more than of Rheims or Verdun. Alternating operations, any of these sectors may be equally serviceable to the final purpose of the German plan. Chess has often been compared with war, but it never offered a more exact and vivid analogy than now. The campaign is the supreme play of all the German forces against all the Allied forces.”

Paris, if Attacked By Germans, Will Be Defended to End

PARIS, June 9.—Deputies representing the departments of Seine-et-Oise and Seine-et-Marne met here yesterday to discuss measures to be taken in the event that the capital is menaced.

Deputy Leboucq informed his colleagues that Premier Clemenceau stated, before leaving for the front that all possible measures were being taken and that the city should be attacked, as appeared to him to be unlikely, it would be “defended to the end,” as General Gallieni decided just first summer of the war.

The appointment of the Committee of Defence to supervise the intrenching and works which protect the capital is the sequel to report by M. Clemenceau in his capacity as Minister of War. Paris is not likely to be besieged, but the Germans with their long-range guns may be able to subject it to an intense bombardment if they can come a few miles closer; it is necessary to be prepared for all eventualities.

Ship was permitted to leave this port to-day. Vessels passing at sea like-wise were warned to keep a sharp lookout for enemy submarines and for mines.

Seaplanes from Cape May were more than ordinarily active in the search for U-boats. One naval dirigible balloon added to the aerial forces defending these waters was out on a reconnaissance flight this morning.

Long-range German gun bombardments of the Paris district again to-day with long-range guns.

The “Matin” says there were some victims of yesterday's bombardment.

Long-Range German Gun Bombards Paris District
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Military Comment

By William L. McPherson
GERMAN strategy is rushed for time. It must strike and keep on striking. Ludendorff, recognizing the stalemate in the Aisne-Marne salient, did not choose to employ three weeks or more in fabricating a new surprise drive on some hitherto untouched sector of the front from Switzerland to the North Sea—further east in Champagne, for example, or about Verdun.

He could not draw such a new offensive out of his hat. But he had already in hand an offensive supplementary to the great drive of May 27, from the Chemin-des-Dames. He needed only to extend the Aisne-Marne operation to the west, engaging all of the von Hutier group of armies—some of which had already helped von Boehm and Franz von Bulow to capture Soissons and push southward to Dormans and Chateau Thierry.

The Oise Valley operation begun yesterday morning is, in fact, only a logical continuation of the offensive of May 27. It was, perhaps, always the more important feature of Ludendorff's strategic plan. The thrust on the Noyon-Montdidier front was to be withheld to the end, in the hope that Foch would be stampeded into shifting the bulk of his reserves further east and south.

Then the real German objectives would be disclosed—the smashing of the Noyon-Montdidier side of the big Somme Valley salient and a push toward Paris down the valley of the Oise.

The French expected the original drive of March 21 last to come south and southwest from Laon. Pétain's reserves were massed in that sector. Foch had not yet been made commander in chief of the Allied armies, and lack of close co-operation delayed the transfer of French divisions around toward Amiens to restore the dislocated lines north and south of the Somme.

The Oise valley is the most natural route from Picardy to Paris. At the time when Falkenhayn opened the campaign for Verdun some of the most distinguished German military critics were of the opinion that the German offensive, if it were to accomplish anything worth while, should have been launched from Noyon, which was then in German hands. Had Foch been misled into rushing his reserves away from the Noyon-Lassigny-Montdidier front the drive begun yesterday might have been, in fact, the most threatening which the Allies have yet been called upon to meet.

There are no indications, however, so far, that this front was stripped. It is probable, on the contrary, as Paris dispatches say, that Ludendorff's new move was fully anticipated and discounted. Foch has shown his grasp of the situation by letting the Germans go to the Marne and holding them there with light forces, while keeping the bulk of his strength massed west of

the loss of his vessel meant ruin, he was allowed to pass with his ship and \$30,000 cargo of sperm oil unharmed.

Navy Now Routes All Shipping Here To Avoid U-Boats
Rear Admiral Nathaniel R. Usher, who, as commander of the Third Naval District, has had control of shipping in this port since the discovery of hostile submarines, announced yesterday as the result of numerous inquiries from agents and masters of coastwise vessels, which were forwarded to him from Washington, that all inquiries as to date of sailing and route should be made of the navy route officer, Lieutenant J. S. Baylis, 280 Broadway.

Admiral Usher's announcement follows: “Now that the enemy submarines have become active on the Atlantic coast, the following steps have become necessary for the protection of shipping at sea and in order that shipping may be properly routed.”

“The control of all shipping, coastwise and overseas, for routing and within the defensive sea areas and outside of harbors, has been assumed by the Navy Department. This control will be exercised locally by the commandant of the Third Naval District.

“Ship owners, agents and masters of vessels in the Third Naval District, including all ports from New London, Conn., to Barnegat, N. J., desiring information regarding the prohibitive nature of sailing their vessels are advised to see the navy route officer, Lieutenant J. S. Baylis, 280 Broadway, room 303, telephone W. 8900, extension 44.

“Before leaving port, masters of vessels must in all cases apply to the navy routing officer for order and routing instructions.”

“Vessels at sea should be prepared to receive at any time radio instructions to put into the nearest port or some port other than destination, for orders.”

“Orders to make port should be promptly carried out and arrival reported at once, with request for further orders and route instructions.

“There cannot be a submarine outside of customs control and regulations in force under order of the Secretary of the Treasury.”

It is stated by the naval authorities that, despite the submarine activities, coastwise traffic is well protected and is again running under normal conditions. It is desired by the officials that information picked up by mariners while en route between ports be promptly reported to the naval route officer.

Two Whalers Held Up By U-Boat Off Hatteras
NEW BEDFORD, Mass., June 9.—Two whalers which arrived here to-day reported they had been held up by a German submarine off Cape Hatteras.

Captain J. T. Gonssalves of the schooner A. M. Nicholson said that on his pleading with the captain of the U-boat that he was a poor man and

assistance. They were powerless, as the ship was unmanageable, and would have been easy prey for a submarine if one had been in the vicinity. Two tugs came up and towed the steamship safely to port.

The submarine, which was faster than the steamship, ran ahead of her in the darkness and lay in wait until she came alongside. The explosion of the torpedo, which was fired at close range, tore a great hole in the starboard side. The steamship immediately began to fill. The fifty-seven surviving members of the crew took to the boats.

British in Conference Merely Bow to Enemy
LONDON, June 9.—Describing the meeting between the British and German delegates at The Hague as an exchange of prisoners of war, Reuter's correspondent at The Hague says they did not shake hands, but merely bowed to each other.

A moment before, the Dutch Foreign Minister had received the delegations separately in adjoining rooms. He then brought them face to face, delivering a speech in which he wished success to their mission. Major-General Friedrich replied for the Germans and Sir George Cave, Home Secretary, on behalf of the British. Both thanked Himmler for what that country had done for prisoners.

English Aircraft Destroy 3 U-Boats With Depth Bombs
LONDON, June 9.—Accounts of the destruction of the three enemy submarines by British aircraft were published yesterday. It is explained that the longer hours of daylight enable seaplanes, airships and kite balloons to assist materially in hunting down U-boats. Summer conditions favor the submarine hunters, whose incessant towing of nets forces German craft to seek deeper waters.

An observer in a British towing balloon sighted certain things which, to his trained eye, indicated the presence of a U-boat at a great depth. Depth charges were dropped, and the submarine was obliged to shift its position.

The balloon continued on watch, and an hour later a submarine was observed to emerge a long distance away and start shelling a sailing vessel. The balloon was towed rapidly to the spot, and in the mean time the U-boat was forced to submerge by shots from the towing vessel. Under the direction of the balloon observer the towing vessel got over the track of the U-boat and dropped nine depth charges. A large quantity of oil came to the surface, spreading gradually, until it covered an area of a square mile.

A British dirigible sighted a U-boat attacking a merchantman. The dirigible reached the spot just after the U-boat submerged and dropped a bomb three feet astern. A quantity of oil came to the surface. The dirigible dropped a second bomb, scoring a direct hit and lifting the submarine to the surface momentarily, after which it disappeared in a pool of oil.

A seaplane sighted a U-boat submerging and dropped a bomb, which hit and lifted the submarine to the surface. The seaplane dropped a second bomb into the centre of the churned water and a great quantity of oil came to the surface. The disturbance continued for a long time, and was evident the submarine was mortally wounded.

King George Answers Mother, Returns Son
(Special Dispatch to The Tribune)

OTTAWA, June 9.—King George personally, just as a regiment was leaving an English port for France, picked a seventeen-year-old Canadian boy out of the ranks and sent him home.

His mother, Mrs. A. E. Steward, of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, had sent two sons overseas and when her youngest, then aged sixteen, enlisted with the 227th Battalion she sent a letter to Ottawa asking that he be sent home, as he was under age. No attention was paid to the request.

Then she wrote twice to the King, with the result that the boy had the honor at Shorncliffe camp of being told to step out of the ranks and go home, as his family had already done their share. He obeyed orders and is back home. He is now seventeen, however, and says as soon as he is old enough he will return to the trenches.

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Sinking of Hospital Ship Called “Wilful”
AMSTERDAM, June 9.—“The wilful destruction” of the hospital ship Konigin Regentes, says the “Nieuwe Courant,” of The Hague, occurred under circumstances which virtually exclude the possibility of a “mistake.”

There cannot be a submarine commander, it says, who does not know for what purpose hospital ships again and again have crossed the North Sea. The paper points out further that the German authorities always had said a paddle boat was clearly recognizable by submarines owing to the peculiar sound it makes.

The paper makes it clear that in its opinion the incident calls for speedy action on the part of the German government.

Belfast Steamer, Hit By Torpedo, Is Saved
LONDON, June 9.—A Belfast steamship, torpedoed by a German submarine while bound from England, has reached an Irish port, badly damaged. Three firemen were killed by the explosion of the torpedo.

No fewer than four torpedoes were discharged by the submarine. The vessel was manoeuvred so adroitly, however, that three of them missed their mark. The attack was made at night. At daybreak the vessel was still afloat, but was down by the head. The crew, which had abandoned ship, went back on board, although the forward deck was awash, determined to take her to port.

The men succeeded in getting the disabled wireless plant into operation again, and flashed an urgent call for

Home Letters Aid In Saving Soldiers From Shell Shock

Best Possible Mail Service Between U. S. and Army Abroad Is Urged

Helps Keep Up Morale
Red Cross Official, Back From France, Pictures Value of Cheerful Messages

(Special Dispatch to The Tribune)

WASHINGTON, June 9.—The importance of maintaining the best possible mail service between the United States and American soldiers fighting in France is emphasized by a statement issued to-day by W. Frank Parsons, director general of Civilian Relief for the Red Cross, in which he states “the Red Cross, in which he believes that the Red Cross has been actually helped to make soldiers less subject to shell shock.”

Mr. Parsons has just returned to Washington after spending four weeks in France, studying conditions which might affect the morale of the American fighter.

He heard with the American troops at reception camps, supply and naval bases and concentration points behind the line. He has observed closely the men of divisions holding sections of the front, and has seen many small groups of American fighting side by side with British French regiments in other sectors. The American soldiers billeted in little French hamlets seemed to interest him particularly because they maintain their morale under conditions which offer no suggestion of American life in institutions.

“Of the morale of our fighting men I heard only uniform approval throughout France. They are maintaining the morale under conditions which, because of loneliness, strangeness and remoteness, do not in themselves present any prospect of a happy ending. The English and the French military authorities are fully awake to the tremendous benefit to morale of maintaining home interests and satisfying the family instinct of the soldiers. They therefore make a ten-day fortnight every four months a regular feature of their military system.

“Our soldiers cannot come home for such visits. Therefore, so far as it is possible to do so, we must take the American home to him. We must keep them constantly in touch with home life as we are living it from day to day in city, town or rural district.”

“Very important in keeping the American home a living reality are letters from home—news, pictures, news, not worth a line, but in any newspaper, but of real value to every member of that part.”

“Such home news keeps brotherly father or uncle buoyed up and in the fighting spirit. Its absence may send him into battle worried, blue or morose, in no mental shape to take care of himself or do his full part in protecting his trench mates.”

Fliers Bomb Enemy, Despite Cloud Handicap
LONDON, June 9.—The official report on aerial operations issued this evening says:

“Low clouds hampered work on Sunday, but our airplanes continued attacking the enemy behind his line, with machine gun fire. Our squadrons cooperating with the French, have bombed Nesle and Fresnoy-les-Bains, nine tons being dropped on the latter.”

“During the following night two tons were dropped on a railway station near four hostile machines have been brought down and two others disabled. None of ours is missing.”

"BELL AND WING"
By Frederick Fanning Ayer
READ WHAT THESE ENGLISH AUTHORITIES SAY OF THIS MOUNTAIN-NEST OF VERSE, THESE SUPERNAL FLIGHTS OF SONG.
"Cloud splendors on the mountain-top of achievement."
"Power and originality."
"The rarest verses of the time. Grip us hours after reading."
"Absorbing, astounding, inspiring, baffling."
"Genuine aspiration and power."
"Transports us to another hemisphere."
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